

Brosme brosme* (Cusk)*Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)****Class:** *Actinopterygii* (Ray-finned Fishes)**Order:** *Gadiformes* (Cods, Haddock, Grenadiers)**Family:** *Lotidae* (Hakes And Burbot)**General comments:**

ESA Candidate Species - throughout its range; ESA species of Concern - Atlantic - Gulf of Maine;

General information: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/fish/cusk.htm><http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected/pcp/soc/cusk.html>**No Species Conservation Range Maps Available for Cusk****SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:****Risk of Extirpation: NA****State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:***Brosme brosme* is listed as a Species of Concern by the National Marine Fisheries Service.**Recent Significant Declines:**

Cusk is currently undergoing steep population declines, which has already led to, or if unchecked is likely to lead to, local extinction and/or range contraction.

Notes:

Recent significant declines:

Regional Endemic: NA**High Regional Conservation Priority:****Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC):**

Status: E, Last Examination: 11/1/2012, Change: In a higher risk category, Canada Occurrence: Atlantic Ocean

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA**Understudied rare taxa: NA****Historical: NA****Culturally Significant: NA****Habitats Assigned to Cusk:****Formation Name Subtidal****Macrogroup Name Subtidal Bedrock Bottom****Habitat System Name:** Bedrock Bottom Macrogroup - Unknown Habitat System ****Primary Habitat******Macrogroup Name Subtidal Coarse Gravel Bottom****Habitat System Name:** Coarse Gravel Bottom Macrogroup - Unknown Habitat System ****Primary Habitat******Macrogroup Name Subtidal Sand Bottom****Habitat System Name:** Unvegetated**Stressors Assigned to Cusk:**

Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

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None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

Guild Level Conservation Actions:

This Species is currently not attributed to a guild.

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife

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Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.